

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAKE PARK COUNCIL MEETING
3801 LAKE PARK ROAD, LAKE PARK, NC
REGULAR SESSION – 7:00 P.M.
FEBRUARY 13, 2007**

ATTENDING: Mayor John Ross, Mayor Pro Tem Sandy Coughlin
Council Members: Sarah Barbour, Greg Crosby,
Kendall Spence, Jo Waybright
Attorney Ken Swain
Finance Officer Cheryl Bennett
Village Clerk Cheri Clark

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor John Ross called the Regular Session of the Village of Lake Park Council to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor John Ross led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Session – January 9, 2007. Kendall Spence made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Sandy Coughlin seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Loretta Dean expressed her concerns about the parking along Mayhurst Drive. In the event of an emergency, emergency vehicles could not respond to all of the homes due the way cars are being parked on the street. According to the Parking Ordinance Emergency vehicles MUST be able to clear both sides of the street. Anyone parking on the street needs to make sure that there is emergency vehicle clearance. When the non-emergency number was called Saturday night, the resident was informed that the Sheriff's Department could not do anything. Sarah Barbour will contact Captain Easley with the Sheriff's Office and Greg Crosby will plan to publish an article in the newsletter about the Parking Ordinance.

Royetta Sieminski requested a donation from Council to help defer the cost of a Hotdog Social in Russell Park for the youth in Lake Park. The event will be held in late March or early April. Mayor John Ross asked for a ballpark on the donation. The event will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$150 to \$200. On Thursday night, at 7:00 p.m. at Lake Park Christian Academy, the Community Watch speaker will be Sheriff Eddie Cathey. He will be discussing gangs in Union County. Ms. Sieminski stated that there are no gangs in the VOLP.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Add – 11A. Waste Collection. Jo Waybright made the motion to modify the Agenda. Sarah Barbour seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

SECURITY REPORT: Sarah Barbour has the Ordinance packets ready for distribution. Residents can pick up a packet at the Community Center during normal business hours. All of the January alarm calls in the VOLP were false.

FINANCIAL OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT: Cheryl Bennett presented the Budget Performance for January. Sixty nine percent of the revenue has been collected for the year and 52% of the budget has been spent thorough January 31st. The bank accounts of the VOLP earned \$30,000.00 in interest during 2006.

TAX OFFICER'S REPORT: Cheri Clark requested a motion to post and advertise tax liens at least once between March 1 and June 30th G.S. 105-369(a), -369(c). The Tax Collector must give notice of tax liens and of advertisement of such liens to both the listing and the record owners of the affected property at least 30 days prior to the date of publication. G.S.105-369 (b1). Sandy Coughlin made the motion to accept the tax lien request. Jo Waybright seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

COMMUNICATIONS: Greg Crosby is working on the next edition of the newsletter. The cutoff for articles is February 23rd. The new issue will include an article on the Parking Ordinance. The Park and Rec page and the Economic Development page are not live as of tonight. The content has not been posted to the pages. Sarah Barbour will work with Greg Crosby to have all of the current ordinances posted on the website. On the “Who do I contact” page suggestions included street light issues, HOA contact information, pool questions, trash collection, and community center rental.

Greg Crosby reminded Council that e-mails are public record and that any e-mail pertaining to the Village needs to be archived.

PARK AND RECREATION: Jo Waybright informed Council that at this time there is not a consensus on the Pool membership rates for 2007. Some members of Parks and Rec would like to see the rates reduced to generate more memberships and others think that the rates need to be raised to minimize the deficit. Does the Council have any additional money to assist with the deficit if rates are lowered? Mayor John Ross asked if Parks and Rec could try to reach a consensus at their February meeting and then present their suggestion to the Council at the March meeting. With the input from the Parks and Rec Commission, Kendall Spence asked if during Budget Workshop, could a tax increase be considered that would provide free use of the pool to all residents.

Kendall Spence suggested that the memorial for Mack Currence be the Gazebo Park and the dedication planned for July 4th. Sandy Coughlin suggested that a policy for naming public property be established first. Jo Waybright would like to see us establish the memorial for Mack Currence and then work on establishing policy. Sandy Coughlin suggested that Founders Park be named for Mack Currence. Greg Crosby would like to see each request treated as an ad hoc. Mayor John Ross suggested naming the Community Center after Mack Currence. Both Mayor John Ross and Jo Waybright would like to see Council move forward with the memorial.

The Waterfowl Management report is provided by Norris Jeffrey is as follows:

1. One Canada goose was killed in a collision with motor vehicle on Lake Park Rd near entrance pond.
2. No expenditures this month. Balance in project budget remains at \$1500
3. Nighttime harassment with hand-held green laser continues. The number of geese roosting in Lake Park ponds has been reduced significantly. Around 4:30am this morning, Feb 13, there were a few, less than 5, as exact counts are difficult at night, geese roosting in the pond below Lake Charles, two or three roosting in the Alden swan pond and 5 or 6 roosting in Connie's Pond. No geese were observed roosting in the entrance pond, Lake Charles, the three Garden District ponds, Russell park pond, Veterans park pond, Bobbie Lane pond or the large pond in the back of Alden.
4. Initiated daytime harassment with a land vehicle (radio controlled Hummer from Radio Shack) and a water vehicle (radio controlled boat Calliente II also from Radio Shack). Preliminary results indicate that the Hummer is not effective unless grass is cut short and has been recently mowed. It is effective on pavement and sidewalks in causing geese to either run away or fly. However, they often only move short distances. The boat is effective in flushing the geese if they are in the water and cannot quickly step out on the bank. However, they often only fly away only short distances. These are preliminary results and further testing will continue. Use of the radio-controlled vehicles in combination with use of local dogs on a leash will be tested next.
5. A detailed report on goose numbers in Lake Park is being prepared and should be ready by the March council meeting.
6. Egg addling training this Saturday, Feb 17 at the Lake Park Community Center will be conducted by Maggie Brasted, Director, Urban Wildlife Conflict Resolution, Humane Society of the United States. Trainees will include: Kendall Spence, Jo and Doyle Waybright, Cheri Clark, Steve Patterson, Ben Richardson, Jennifer Gordon, Norris and Jan Jeffrey and Jana and Doug Mellen.
7. Lake Park has registered on the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's web site and has been issued an order for nest and egg depredation on village property. Individual property owners may also register for an order to cover their property. Interested property owners should contact the Village Clerk for additional information. Activity under this permit will be initiated on March 1. The egg addling training is intended to support this activity. A note in the next edition of the Villager about this activity is needed.

Kendall Spence made a motion to restore the drainage ditch and replace the riprap at the corner of Faith Church Road and Unionville Indian Trail Road - \$875.00. Sandy Coughlin seconded the motion. Line item - Park Maintenance. Vote – Unanimous.

Kendall Spence made a motion to remove and replace 5 dead redbud trees at the corner of Sages, Peony and Balsam and plant 2 river birch trees in the Garden District - \$950.00. Greg Crosby seconded the motion. Line item - Park Maintenance. Vote – Unanimous.

Due to the erosion damage, dam concerns and muskrat problems on Connie's Pond, Parks and Rec has received one quote for putting down chicken wire and then Riprap all around the pond - \$8900.00. Kendall Spence asked if this type of repair would be considered Park Maintenance or Capital Expenditure. Due to the expense and longevity of the work, it could be considered a capital expense. Kendall Spence will provide additional quotes for the work.

Kendall Spence also provided information for Council to be considering for budget workshop concerning the enlargement of the Community Center and additional parking. The idea presented would add an additional 1200 square feet on each side of the building which would provide for a community room that could accommodate 100 people, storage for tables and chairs, additional office space, and larger chambers.

Jo Waybright shared that at this time, the Parks and Rec Commission cannot honor Mrs. Perry's request to name the pond in the Garden District - Shirley's Pond.

Greg Crosby asked what could be done about the Frisbee Golf Course, as it has become an eyesore. The course belongs to the Lake Park Christian Academy. Mayor Ross suggested that Parks and Rec explore making a donation to the school for the maintenance since anyone can use the course.

Kendall Spence made a motion to re-appoint Ken Willis to the Parks and Rec Commission. Greg Crosby seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

STREET BUSINESS: Mayor John Ross reported that 145 sidewalk panels would be replaced in the VOLP. Safety concerns were the first priority for replacement. Eighteen panels are located in the common areas and the line item – Park Maintenance would pay for those. The remaining work will be paid out of the Powell Bill. On March 6th, Mayor Ross will meet with Wanda Smith at Fred Kirby Park to discuss the additional sidewalks that Union County will install as part of the original obligations for the land.

Mayor John Ross provided Council with information concerning the signage in the Garden District. Work is underway to clarify directional issues in the area. If it is the pleasure of the Council, Mayor Ross would like to send the regional DOT a letter concerning the intersection of Faith Church Road and Unionville Indian Trail Road. The original intersection was designed with a stop signal. The current design has created a dangerous intersection. Council requested that the letter be sent.

WASTE COLLECTION: Sandy Coughlin distributed information concerning the cost of providing commercial waste collection vs tax revenue for Council to start reviewing for Budget Workshop.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Sandy Coughlin and Kendall Spence are planning the next Economic Development Commission meeting.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLAN RESOLUTION: Ken Swain has not received a response from the County in reference to the Flood Management Plan Resolution.

SET AGENDA FOR APRIL 10, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING: Delete 11A. Waste Collection.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Kendall Spence made a motion for Council to purchase business cards. Sarah Barbour seconded the motion. Vote: Four to One with Sandy Coughlin voting against. Cards will be purchased with the VOLP information.

Mayor John Ross informed Council that information concerning the 2010 Census has been received by the VOLP.

ADJOURN: Sandy Coughlin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Spence seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H. Ross
Mayor

Cheri S. Clark
Village Clerk